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LEES

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

1960

THE

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

COUNCIL OFFICES,
CROSS STREET, LEES,
NR. OLDHAM, LANCASHIRE.

URBAN DISTRICT OF LEES.

Chairman of the Council 1960 - 1961.

Councillor H. Travis J.P.

Health Committee 1960 - 1961.

Councillor H. K. Dyson, Chairman.

Councillor J. Gartside.

Councillor S. Pearson.

Councillor F. Ward.

Councillor H. Travis J. P.

Councillor F. Rowland.

Councillor H. Slack.

Councillor H. Hirst.

Councillor J. G. Gartside.

Councillor L. Vaughan.

Councillor O. Bevan.

Councillor A. Barrett.

Councillor F. Scholes.

Councillor A.M. J. Bradley.

Councillor W. Dixon.

Medical Officer of Health.

T. P. O'GRADY, M.B., Ch. B., B.A.O., D.P.H. (Deceased).

-and-

G. R. BRACKENRIDGE, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

"Tylon", Middleton Road, Chadderton.

Tel: MAIn 6251/2.

Public Health Inspector.

VERNON K. HALLOWS, M. A. P. H. I.

Council Offices, Lees.

Tel: MAIn 1102.

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Council Offices,
Cross Street,
Lees,
Nr. Oldham.

July, 1961.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee of the Urban District Council of Lees.

Mr. Chairman, Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting for your consideration the Annual Report of the Health of the District 1960. Firstly I must thank the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee, the Clerk and the Public Health Inspector for their tolerance, assistance and encouragement in the latter half of the year when, during the illness and following upon the death of the late Dr. T. P. O'Grady, I was acting Medical Officer of Health for the District. I was indeed fortunate in being able to draw on the fund of good-will established by my predecessor.

As in previous reports the statistical details of the year's Public Health activities are again set out within the body of this report but it is appropriate to comment here on several points of interest. There has been a further decrease in the estimated mid-year population of the District which at 3,890 is 270 less than at the 1951 Census. There was a slight fall in the total deaths in comparison with 1959 and all but two of those were in people over the age of 45. The principal causes of death were diseases of the heart and circulatory system, cancer and vascular lesions of the nervous system.

The total of Notified Cases of Infectious Diseases (61) was lower than in the previous year and the bulk of these were cases of measles. One case of paralytic-poliomyelitis was notified. It is most regretable that, although the offer of polio vaccination to all those of 6 months to the age of 40 years was in operation during the year, and vaccine supplies were excellent, there was considerable reluctance of those over the age of 15 years to avail themselves of this protection.

In conclusion I must thank Mr. V. K. Hallows and Miss D. Broadbent for their assistance in the preparation of this report, I hope I will have the pleasure of a continued happy association with the District, it's Councillors and it's Officers.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

G. R. Brackenridge.

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area in Acres	288
Population.	
Census 1951	4,160
Estimated 1960	3,890
Number of Inhabited Houses.	
Estimated 1960	1,458
Rateable Value	£42,521
Sum represented by Penny rate	£140
General rate per pound 1960/61	20s. 6d.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births.

	Male.	Female.	
Legitimate.	25	17	
Illegitimate.	-	2	
Total.....	25	19	44

Rate per 1000 population	
Crude	11.3
Adjusted (Comparability Factor 1.10)	12.4
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	4.8
Stillbirths	
Total Number	1
Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	22.2
Total live and stillbirths	45
Infant Deaths (under 1 year)	2
Infant Mortality Rates	
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	45.5
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births.	47.5
Illigitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births.	Nil
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate	
Deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births	Nil
Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate	
Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births	Nil
Perinatal Mortality Rate	
Stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live births	22.2
Maternal Mortality (including abortion)	
Number of deaths	Nil
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	Nil
Deaths from all causes	
Total Numbers	59
Rate per 1,000 population.	
Crude	15.2
Adjusted (Comparability Factor 1.04)	15.8

Comparative Table of Vital Statistics.

		1960.	1959.	1958.	1957.	1956.
Live Births.	No. Adj.Rate	44 12.4	43 12.0	43 11.9	43 11.8	48 13.2
Stillbirths.	No. Rate.	1 22.2	1 22.7	1 22.7	3 65	2 40
Total (Live & Still Births).	No.	45	44	44	46	50
Illegitimate Births % of live Births.	No. Rate	2 4.5	2 4.9	3 6.9	0 Nil	0 Nil
Total Infant Deaths.	No. Rate	2 45.5	1 23.3	2 46.5	1 23	1 21
Legitimate Birth Deaths.	No. Rate	2 47.5	1 24.4	2 50	1 20	1 20
Illegitimate Birth Deaths.	No. Rate	0 Nil	0 Nil	0 Nil	0 Nil	0 Nil
Neonatal Deaths.	No. Rate	0 Nil	1 23.3	1 23.5	0 Nil	0 Nil
Maternal Deaths.	No. Rate	0 Nil	0 Nil	0 Nil	1 21.74	0 Nil
Total Deaths.	No. Adj.Rate	59 15.8	65 17.2	53 13.9	60 15.5	49 12.6

General Social Conditions.

The district lies immediately to the east of Oldham being between the boundary of this large borough and the West Riding of Yorkshire. Originally the village was developed around the Cotton Mills, which were formerly and principally the main source of local employment. There are now however, only two mills in active production in the district and the remainder are converted to other industries, or used as storage places. One Mill Nursery is being redeveloped to provide a Child Welfare Centre and to house the local Civil Defence Section.

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CAUSES OF DEATH.

	1960.			1959.	1958.	1957.	1956.
	M.	F.	Total				
Syphilitic disease.	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
Malignant neoplasms -							
Stomach	1	-	1	1	2	1	3
Lung & Bronchus	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Breast	-	2	2	-	1	2	-
Uterus	-	1	1	1	-	2	1
Other sites.	2	2	4	7	4	3	9
Diabetes.	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
Vascular lesions of nervous system.	3	8	11	14	6	5	6
Coronary disease, angina.	5	4	9	9	6	8	11
Hypertension with heart disease.	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
Other heart disease.	4	5	9	9	12	9	8
Other circulatory disease.	2	5	7	6	7	5	2
Influenza.	-	-	-	-	1	3	-
Pneumonia.	1	2	3	2	1	4	-
Bronchitis.	4	1	5	8	3	7	2
Other diseases of respiratory system.	1	-	1	-	1	-	-
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum.	-	-	-	1	2	-	2
Nephritis and nephrosis.	1	-	1	-	-	1	-
Hyperplasia of prostate .	1	-	1	1	-	-	-
Pregnancy.	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Congenital malformations.	-	1	1	2	-	-	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases.	1	-	1	1	4	3	2
Motor vehicle accidents.	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
All other accidents.	-	-	-	2	1	2	1
Suicide.	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
Totals	28	31	59	65	53	60	49

DISTRIBUTION OF DEATHS.

Years.	1960.			1959	1958	1957	1956
	M.	F.	Total				
Under 1	-	2	2	1	2	1	1
1 - 2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
3 - 4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 - 14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 24	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
25 - 44	-	-	-	2	1	1	1
45 - 64	10	9	19	19	17	18	14
65 and over.	17	21	38	42	33	38	33
Totals	27	32	59	65	53	60	49

SECTION B.

Prevalence of and Control over Infectious Diseases.

The incidence of Infectious Diseases remained low during the year 1960, with a total of 61 cases being notified, of this total 43 were cases of Measles affecting principally children in infancy or in the first few years of school life.

One case of paralytic-poliomyelitis was reported during the year, this was a male of 7 years.

Only two cases of Respiratory Tuberculosis were reported during the year both of these being in men.

Notifiable Disease (Tuberculosis).

Ages.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory.		Non Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals.	2		-		-		-	

Notifiable Disease (Other than Tuberculosis).

	Cases Notified. Ages.											Removed to Hospital.	Deaths.
	0	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	25	45	65		
Scarlet Fever.	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles.	1	4	7	8	10	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough.	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Polio-paralytic.	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Polio-Non-paralytic.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery.	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	3	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Pneumonia.	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	1	6	7	8	10	21	-	1	3	2	-	1	-

Yearly Totals.

	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956
Scarlet Fever.	2	4	6	5	7
Measles.	43	62	8	56	-
Whooping Cough.	3	2	-	18	2
Polio-paralytic.	1	-	-	-	-
Polio-Non-paralytic.	-	1	-	-	-
Dysentery.	6	2	22	-	1
Food Poisoning.	-	-	-	2	7
Acute Pneumonia.	3	1	-	9	1
Puerperal Pyrexia.	1	-	-	-	2
Totals.....	59	72	36	90	20

SECTION C.

The Lancashire County Council, under the National Health Service Act, is the responsible authority for the provision and maintenance of personal health services. These services e.g.,

Maternity & Child Welfare Services.
Midwifery Services.
Mental Health Services.
Home Help Services.
Ambulance Services.
Care of School Children.
Care of the Aged.
General Welfare Services.

are administered under the Divisional Health Service Scheme by Divisional Health Committee No. 14 through the Divisional Medical Officer, "Tylon", Middleton Road, Chadderton (Tel: MAIn 6251).

Ante-natal clinics are held fortnightly in the district and child welfare clinics weekly. No school clinic facilities are available so school children attend in other parts of the Division. Home helps are available to attend households where necessary in cases of confinement, illness, old age and infirmity. Over 70% of the demands on this service are for the care of the aged and infirm. A charge is made for home help services dependent on the means of the person helped.

Hospital facilities are provided and maintained through the Regional Hospital Board and Hospital Management Committees without regard to local authority boundaries.

The examination of pathological specimens and samples of milk, ice-cream, water and other foods is undertaken, without charge to the authority, by the Public Health Laboratory Service, Public Health Laboratory, Monsall Hospital, Manchester 10.

The Urban District Council is responsible for those matters likely to affect or be concerned with the maintenance of high standards of environmental health. These include:

Inspection of houses re fitness for human habitation.
Control of infectious disease (Including food poisoning).
Control of slaughtering facilities and inspection of meat.
Control of food and food preparing premises.
Provision of suitable water supplies.
Detection and prevention of nuisances.
Prevention of atmospheric pollution.
Control of rodent and insect infestations.
Collection and disposal of refuse.
Provision of sanitary accommodation and public conveniences.

Council Offices,
Cross Street,
Lees.

To: The Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

Mr. Chairman, Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting to you the Annual Report on the Sanitary Administration of the District during the year 1960.

As indicated in 1959, the first single-bedroomed bungalows were completed and occupied allowing a slight redistribution of Council house tenants to enable better use of existing accommodation and to provide the first accommodation for the aged. The bungalows also allowed the first demolitions to take place in the New Street area, and thus another beach-head was established against the slum clearance problem.

I would like again to express my thanks and appreciation to all members of the Committee, to my Medical Officers of Health and to my fellow officers and staff for their help and support. And may I add my regrets and sorrow at the untimely death of Dr. T. P. O'Grady.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

Vernon K. Hallows.

Public Health Inspector.

SECTION D.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Drainage and Sewerage.

The whole district is drained and sewered but the Authority possesses no sewage disposal works. Sewage is conveyed to sewers of the Oldham County Borough via three main junctions, the respective flows being measured by Lea recorders, and is treated by that authority at their disposal works in Slacks Valley, Chadderton.

Public Cleansing.

A weekly collection of household refuse is maintained throughout the year; collection being direct from household bins to a motor vehicle and disposal by tipping. Tins are recovered for salvage whilst the refuse is being hand levelled at the tip face and some paper is removed for incineration on the tip top.

Dustbins are replaced by the Council, the cost being borne by the general rate fund. 99 dustbins were supplied during the year as replacements. The number of moveable dustbins in the district is some 1500.

Rodent Control.

No full-time rodent operative is employed, all necessary works being carried out by members of the road maintenance staff who have attended Ministry courses of instruction in rodent destruction. The sewer system receives a twice yearly treatment when labour permits and complaints of rodent infestation are handled as circumstances dictate. 20 infestations were successfully treated throughout the year.

Sanitary Accommodation.

All houses in the district are on the water carriage system although not all possess a separate fresh water closet. 49 waste water closets still remain and progress in their elimination is painfully slow. Two were converted during the year under review.

Number of waste water closets end 1959.	49.
Number of conversions during year.	2.
Number of fresh water closets.	1400.
Number of houses on water carriage system.	1412.

Smoke Abatement.

The authority co-operates in the joint scheme for the investigation of atmospheric pollution formed by 27 local authorities and has one lead peroxide guage for the determination of sulphur pollution sited in the Cemetery grounds.

Smoke emissions from factory chimneys during the year did not call for any action other than verbal cautions.

Water Supply.

The district is served by upland surface water from the Oldham County Borough supply. Filtration and sterilization by the cloramine process takes place at the source of the supply. 4 bacteriological samples taken in the district were reported as satisfactory.

Sanitary Inspections.

During the year 490 visits were made to 256 premises, namely,

164	dwellinghouses.
77	shops and business premises.
10	factories.
5	schools.

In the dwellinghouses 125 defects or nuisances were found and during the year 121 of these matters were remedied. It was not found necessary to serve formal notices to ensure that the repairs were carried out, 20 informal notices and personal visits obtaining the desired results.

3 houses were found to be verminous but each infestation responded to a lindane/DDT treatment and was satisfactorily cleared.

No legal action was called for during visits to the shops and in general conditions are satisfactory.

There are 5 schools in the district, one being a private school. Although each is drained and has a water supply, one school still possesses and has to make use of obsolete trough-type closets, three schools have unsatisfactory washing facilities and unsatisfactory drinking water facilities.

There are 27 factories among which 17 visits were made. No notices or prosecutions under the Act were found necessary.

Rodent Control Work.

	Local Authority	Dwelling houses	Other Premises	Agri-cultural
Number of properties in the district.	11	1412	268	6
Number of properties inspected.	4	28	-	2
Number of properties found infested by:-				
Rats - Major	-	-	-	-
- Minor	1	12	-	-
Mice - Major	-	-	-	-
- Minor	1	6	-	-
Number of infested properties treated by local authority.	2	18	-	-

SECTION E.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

The majority of the shops in the district sell foodstuffs of one type or another. Out of 90 shops there are 64 selling food for human consumption. The various trades are represented as under:-

General grocers.	29
Greengrocers.	2
Fishmongers.	1
Butchers.	6
Fish Fryers.	5
Bakers/Confectioners.	5
Sugar Confectioners.	5
Inns, Clubs etc.	11
	64

During the year it was found necessary to issue condemnation certificates in respect of 188 lbs. of food from the above shops. These were the foods concerned:

Lentils.	56
Barley.	56
Split Peas.	28
Luncheon Meat.	4
Butter.	$1\frac{1}{2}$
Margarine.	2
Self-raising flour.	4
Pineapple cubes.	$6\frac{3}{4}$
Pineapple pieces.	$5\frac{1}{4}$
Pears.	4
Apricots.	$5\frac{1}{2}$
Fruit Salad.	3
Pressed Ham.	4
Evaporated Milk.	8

There are 25 distributors of milk in the district, of whom 24 sell only "Sterilized Milk". Only heat-treated milk may be retailed.

No meat inspection now takes place within the district at place of slaughter. The one slaughter-house has closed down.

SECTION F.

HOUSING.

Number of new houses erected during the year:

(i) By the local authority	8
(ii) By other bodies or persons.	11

Inspection of dwelling-houses.

Number inspected formally or informally for housing defects.	65
Total inspections made.	108
Number found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation.	25
Number made fit following informal action.	22
Number so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for habitation at year end. (estimated).	155

Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

Number in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices.	
By owners.	Nil
By local authority in default.	Nil

Proceedings under Housing Acts.

Number which after service of formal notices were rendered fit.	
By owners.	Nil
By local authority in default.	Nil
Number demolished.	17
Number closed in pursuance of an undertaking given by the owner.	21
Parts of buildings closed.	Nil
Number of clearance areas represented.	Nil

Proceedings under Housing Acts 1949/54.

	Standard.	Improvement.
Number of applications for grants made by private individuals.	24	Nil
Number of dwellinghouses affected.	24	Nil
Number of applications approved.	24	Nil
Any other action under the Acts.	Nil	Nil

SECTION G.

Factories.

Inspections.

Premises. (1)	Number on Register. (2)	Number of Inspections. (3)	Written notices. (4)	Occupiers prosecuted. (5).
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.....	14	10	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.....	13	7	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises).	-	-	-	-

Defects.

Particulars. (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found. Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (4)	Referred By H.M. Inspector. (5)	Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted. (6)
Want of cleanliness (S1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) (a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work).....	-	-	-	-	-
Total.....	-	-	-	-	-

Outworkers.

Nature of Work. (1)		Section 110: No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 110 (1) (c). (2)	Section 110: No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council. (3)	Section 110: No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists. (4)	Section 111: No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises. (5)	Section 111: Notices served (6)	Prosecutions. (7)
Wearing apparel	Making	3	-	-	-	-	-
"	Cleaning & Washing.	-	-	-	-	-	-